## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s):  John David Schr  David Sparkes	81-29901  nabel and Stephen  NICS ASSEMBLY	\$\text{\tin}\text{\tetx{\text{\tetx{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\ti}\\\ \ti}\\\ \text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\tin}\tint{\text{\text{\texi}\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\texi}\text{\text{\texi}\text{\texi}\text{\texitt{\text{\texit{\titil\titit{\texititt{\text{\texi}\text{\texi}\texit{\text{	CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10  "Express Mail" mailing label number: EV318247833US DATE OF DEPOSIT:  I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:  Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313 1450  Derrick Brown				
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT							
Commissioner for Pa P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 223							
Sir:							
Applicant re	equests consideration of 🛛 t	he references listed	on the attached Form PTO-1449				
and/or  the additio	nal information identified be	elow in paragraph 3.					
The no.	A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.  The references listed on the Form PTO-1449 were previously cited in application serial no to which the captioned application is seeking priority under 35 U.S.C. §120; therefore, a copy of each reference is not enclosed.						
1. This Inform	ation Disclosure Statement is	on Disclosure Statement is submitted:					
a. 🛚	within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application; before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.						
b. 🔲	Office Action or No	of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final or Notice of Allowance, and thus:  the certification of ow is provided, or  a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.					
с. 🗌		he issue fee, and t	Action or a Notice of Allowance and hus: the certification of paragraph 2 enclosed.				

2. It is hereby certified:

		that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or				
		that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.				
3.		Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:				
4.	For eac	h non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:				
		reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or				
	reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or					
		reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or				
		reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s), and/or				
		reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:				
5.		Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:				
6.		Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.				
7.		The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.				
8.		Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.				
	If any re	equired fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons,				
Hood, K	Civlin, Ko	owert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5681-29901.				
		Signature				
		Name B. Noël Kivlin Registration No. 33,929				
		Date				
		9-16-03				

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Form PTO-1449 (modified) List of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DKT. NO. 5681-29901

APPLICANT: Schnabel, et al

GROUP: Unknown

SERIAL NO. Unknown

## FILING DATE: Concurrently Herewith **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** REF. EXAM. DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE CLASS FILING DATE NAME **SUB** APPROPRIAT DES. **INITIALS CLASS A**1 5,980,295 11/9/99 Lai, et al A2 6,147,873 11/14/00 Huang FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATIO EXAM. REF. **DOCUMENT NUMBER** DATE COUNTRY **CLASS** SUB YES/NO **INITIALS** DES. **CLASS** A3 2211360 6/28/89 GB **A4** 99/60834 11/25/99 WO **A5** 5021973 1/29/93 JР OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) **A6** International search report application number GB0313228.9 mailed August 14, 2003

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DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.